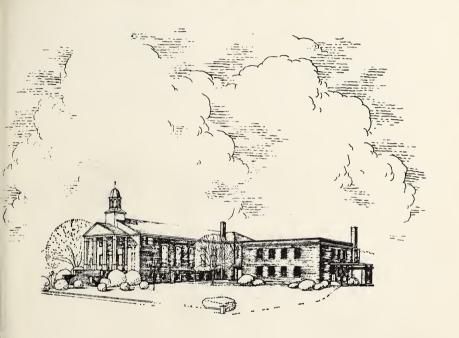
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# Shady Grove Baptist Church

Route 3, Box 436
Cherryville, North Carolina



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
1881 - 1981



J. J. Stroupe



J. H. Witherspoon



SHADY GROVE CHURCH 1881-1936

When Shady Grove Church was organized in 1881, the land for the building and the cemetery was donated by J. J. Stroupe and J. H. Witherspoon.

#### OUR CHURCH HISTORY

On November 25, 1881, Shady Grove Baptist Church was organized under a brush arbor near the site of the present church building, two miles south of Cherryville on the Bessemer City Road. Rev. A. L. Stough preached the sermon from Acts 12:24 He was then elected as chairman of the Presbytery. The Church Covenant and Articles of Faith were read and approved. Thirty-one charter members were formed into a church called Shady Grove.

The land for the church was donated by J. J. Stroupe and J. H. Witherspoon. Later more land was bought by the church and added to the original plot. The first building, erected during the winter of 1881, was built mainly by Oliver Hicks, Noah Hicks, R. B. Hicks and Noah Mauney. It is said that James Farris, a crippled man, made shingles at night by lantern light, to cover the first building.

This early church building was a one-room frame structure and was located near the site of the present building. The main body remained a part of the church building until the completion of the brick structure in 1950.

The first pastor was Elder J. A. Hoyle. He was ordained at Shady Grove on June 16, 1882.

Shady Grove Church joined the Kings Mountain Baptist Association on Sept. 22, 1882 and remained a member of that body until the organization of the Gaston Baptist Association in 1919.

In 1926, during the ministry of Rev. W. G. Camp, the church building was turned so as to face the highway and some additional space was added by building four classrooms for the Sunday School and a splendid place for the choir to the rear of the pulpit.

Also during the ministry of Rev. Camp, in the 20's, Shady Grove began the observance of

an annual Memorial Day service on the first Sunday in May. This service, held in memory of loved ones buried in the cemetery, is a tradition which has continued to the present day. For many former members, this is a day of home-coming.

Deacons who have served Shady Grove through the years have been men of character and conscration. The first deacons were: I.P. Hicks, Noah Mauney, M.L. Hullet and James Farris. Philip Mauney served until his death in 1917. In 1930 deacons were Joseph Mauney, Tom F. Sellers, D.M. Witherspoon, Bert Stroupe and Floyd Mauney. In 1934 the names of Charlie Sellers and C.A. Martin were added. Joseph Mauney died in 1937. All the others continued to serve for a number of years. The name of Eli Sellers was added in 1941.

Rev. Amos M. Kiser was ordained into the ministry at Shady Grove on July 17, 1938. Rev. Kiser is the only minister ordained at Shady Grove, other than the first pastor.

In 1940 a building fund was begun. This fund grew steadily. Early in 1949 plans were made to begin the new church building and the first work was begun. The construction was done by free labor in as far as was practicable and possible.

On February 18, 1951, a dedication service for the new building was held with Mrs. Huldah J. Mauney, the only living charter member, taking an active part. It was reported at this service that the church had raised \$81,092.50 and spent \$80,000 with a balance on hand of \$1,092.50.

In 1956 the congregation purchased land on which to build a parsonage. The next year the parsonage was completed. The first minister to occupy the parsonage was Rev. Lee A. Smith.

On March 6, 1963, a fire damaged the church forcing the congregation to hold services at Tryon School for five months while repairs were made.

The rotating system of electing deacons was started in 1963. By this system, four deacons rotate off each year and four new ones are elected to replace them.

In 1964 a new Educational Building for the Sunday School was completed.

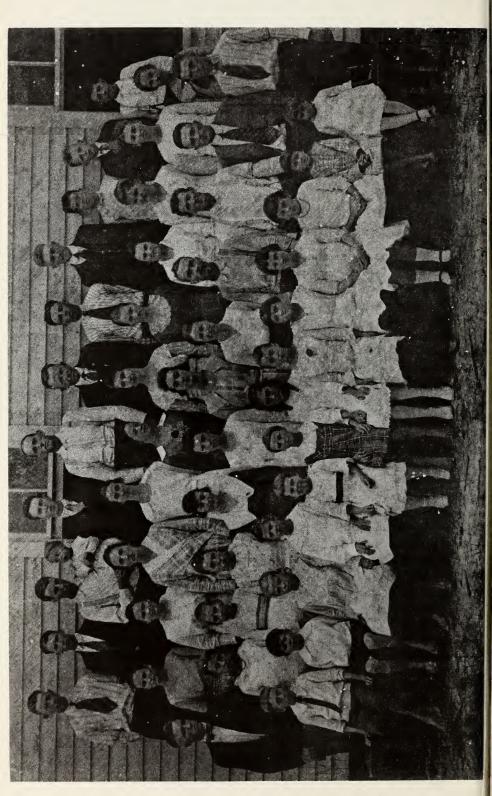
On Sept. 30, 1979, the congregation voted to purchase one hundred acres of land for future development.

Through its one hundred years, God has blessed Shady Grove with faithful devoted ministers who have blessed the lives of the people of this church. For their dedication and service to God we are most grateful.

#### DEDICATION SERVICE 1951



(L to R) Floyd Mauney, Building Superintendent; Elie Sellers, Treasurer; Rev. P. A. Hicks, Pastor; Roy Witherspoon, Chairman of Building Committee.



# SINGING SCHOOL 1919

- First Row (Left to Right) Lawrence Pruitte, Lewis Anthony, Bessie Anthony, Tessie Mae Stroupe, Alma Witherspoon, Daisy Belle Witherspoon, Lela Helton, Pearl Pruitte, Iva Mae Mauney, Lola Mauney, Lorene Stroupe, Aileen Farnsworth, Clara Delle Stroupe
- Will Farnsworth, Miles Witherspoon, Floyd L. Mauney, Caldwell Farnsworth Second Row (L to R) Vannie Hughey, Inez Stroupe, Vada Wright, Edith Mauney, Florence Mauney, Beulah Stroupe, Noveda Randall, Nora Witherspoon,
- Eunice Randall, Belle Wright, Lula Beam, Vida Mauney, Mable Farnsworth, Third Row (L to R) Zoe Manney, Vernie Manney, Huldah Stroupe, Ola Randall, Ora Helton, Carrie Helton
- Fourth Row (L to R) Roy Witherspoon, Hudson Beam, Cullen Pruitte and Eugene, Winfred Stroupe, Bert Stroupe, Vance Sellers, Noah Mauney, Gaither Wright, Zeno Helton, Fred Stroupe, Howard Stroupe

# PASTORS WHO SERVED FROM 1881 - 1981

1.	Rev. J.A. 1	Hoyle	1881	-	1884
2.	Rev. C.F.	Felmet	1885	-	1886
3.	Rev. P.R.	Elam	1887	-	1889
4.	Rev. T.L.	Moss			
5.	Rev. S.A. I	Bridges	1890	-	
6.	Rev. A.P. 1	Bumgarner			
7.	Rev. G.M.	Webb	1894	-	
8.	Rev. R.N. I	Hawkins	1900	-	
9.	Rev. J.D. 1	Woodward			
10.	Rev. C.W.	Payseur	1906	-	1907
11.	Rev. J.C.	Blanton	1909	-	
12.	Rev. C.A.	Caldwell	1910	-	
13.	Rev. L.A.	Bangle	1911	-	1918
14.	Rev. J.J.	Waldrop			
15.	Rev. G.C.	Ivey	1920	-	1921
16.	Rev. A.W.	Setzer	1921	-	1922
17.	Rev. W.T.	Brown	1923	-	1924
18.	Rev. W.G.	Camp	1925	-	1936
19.	Rev. J. Cl	yde Yates	1937		
20.	Rev. Luthe	r W. Hawkins	1938	-	1941
21.	Rev. J.W.	Costner	1942	-	1945
22.	Rev. P.A.	Hicks	1946	-	1956
23.	Rev. Lee A	. Smith	1957	-	1961
24.	Rev. Marvi	n Willis	1961	-	1966
25.	Rev. Frank	Taylor	1967	-	1975
26.	Rev. Dan W	. Silver	1976	-	

# Pastor Pictures



Rev. L. A. Bangle 1911-1918



Rev. W. T. Brown 1923-1924



Rev. W. G. Camp 1925-1936



Rev. Luther Hawkins Rev. J. W. Costner 1938-1941



1942-1945



Rev. P. A. Hicks 1946-1956

# Pastors Pictures & Interim Pastors



Rev. Lee Smith 1957-1961



Rev. Marvin Willis Rev. Frank Taylor 1961-1966



1967-1975



Zeno Wall



Rev. Dan W. Silver 1976-



Rev. A. M. Kiser



Edward Lowell Spive

#### REV. J. A. HOYLE

(FIRST PASTOR OF SHADY GROVE CHURCH) 1881 - 1884

Born March 21, 1850, Burke County, N.C. Married 1869 to Ellen Crowder

Children: Seven

Married second time to Carrie Beaty

Children: Four

Brother Hoyle was converted under the preaching of Brother A.C. Ervin in August 1880 and was baptized into the fellowship of Mt. Zion Church. He was licensed to preach the Gospel in March 1881 and was ordained the next year at Shady Grove. He died Oct. 3, 1918. Funeral services were conducted in the Maiden Baptist Church. Burial was in the Maiden Cemetery. The following is copied from a "Tribute of Respect to Bro. J.A. Hoyle" by Rev. L.R. Williams. (At the time of his death) "When a young man in the ministry he did much preaching at mission points and built up the cause in destitute places. He has been greatly blessed as the introducer of Baptist doctrines into communities, the organization of churches and the building of good houses. He has built more church houses and baptized more members than any minister that has labored in our bounds. He has served churches in Lincoln, Catawba, Cleveland, Burke, Gaston and other adjoining counties. Brother Hoyle did great work in his early ministry as a pioneer preacher. He did much of his preaching under arbors, in school houses and dwelling houses. For this mission work he recieved very little compensation. He prepared the way for many churches that are now strong organizations and are now doing much for the cause of Christ. Though many of these church houses have given way to nicer and better equipped buildings, yet it should not be forgotten that it was through his untiring efforts and sacrifice that these churches had their origin. am of the opinion that Bro. Hoyle will never get the honor due him, and our churches will never fully realize, what he has done for us, in preparing the

way, especially in the South Fork Association. Brother Hoyle was a man that was firm in what he believed to be right. He was a man that spoke out his convictions and stood for the same. He was a good citizen, a faithful preacher of the gospel, and an affectionate husband and father." "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord....that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13

# REV. L. A. BANGLE

Luther Alexander Bangle Born October 24, 1860 Son of Henry L. Bangle and Catherine Helms Bangle Married March 19, 1885 to Polly Helderbrand Children:

> Mary Alice Jonas, Henderson, N.C. Georgia Anna May, Gaston Co. June Bangle (deceased)

Education: Lincoln County Schools

Pastoral Ministry: Called by God to preach the

Gospel around 1887

Reepsville Baptist Church 1888 and again from to 1910, Shady Grove 1911 - 1918, Pastored a church in Kings Mountain until he retired to Lincolnton around 1921.

"In 1922, Rev. Bangle was called out of retirement to lead a group in forming a Union Sunday School at Gainsville School. A few months later, he conducted a revival, and out of this revival came the inspiration to organize Gainsville Baptist Church. In the summer of 1935, after 13 years of faithful service, the Lord called Rev. Bangle to his bountiful reward." Copied from: "A History of Gainsville Baptist Church" Route 1, Lincolnton, N. C.

Rev. Bangle died on his birthday, Oct. 24, 1935.

#### REV. WILLIAM GASTON CAMP

Born Dec. 4, 1886, Rutherford County

Son of James Joshua Camp, Sr. and Ann Eliza Gaudelock

Married in 1943 to Julia McDaniel of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Kings Mountain.

#### Education:

Boiling Springs High School 1910 - 1912 (Pres. of Senior Class) 1914 - 1916 Wake Forest College 1916 - 1920

(Pres. of the Ministereal Class)

Pastoral Ministry: (18 churches)
Served churches in Wake, Orange and Cumberland Counties while in college.

Licensed to Preach in 1909 by State Line Bapt. Church.

Ordained to Ministry by Boiling Springs Bapt. Church in Oct. 1914

Buffalo Bapt. Chruch 1915 - 1916

Shady Grove Church (11 years) 1925 - 1936 Mt. Beulah Baptist, Gaston Co. (8 years)

Leonard's Fork Bapt. Lincoln County

All other churches served were in Cleveland County. Served 20 years as Intrim Pastor. Last active pastorate was with Sandy Run Bapt.

Church, Mooresboro, N. C.

# Other experiences:

Taught 3 years in public schools of Rutherford County.

Taught 7th grade in Cherryville Schools 1927-28 and 1928-29

Rev. Camp states: "While going to school and serving as pastor I tried to care for an aged mother and an invalid sister. The people were kind and did many things for us."

#### REV. J. CLYDE YATES

Rev. John Clyde Yates, Sr.

Born June 21, 1898, Cool Springs Community

Son of Robert Lee Yates and Nancy Blalock Yates Married V.C. Cook

Children: 1. Sarah (Mrs. J.C. Goare)

2. Rachel (Mrs. Tommy Wall)

- 3. John Clyde, Jr. (wife, Frances Bullard)
- 4. Martha (Mrs. Otis Brady) Missionaries to Belize
- 5. Phyllis (Mrs. Blenn Goff)
- 6. Elaine (Mrs. Jerry T. Rogers)
- 7. Doris (Mrs. Steve Rogers)
- 8. Richard (Wife, Judy Brown)
- 9. Robert (Wife, Carolyn Helms)

#### Education:

Iredell-County Schools Mars Hill College Wake Forest College (Graduate, 1930)

Pastoral Ministry: (61 years)

Ordained June 13, 1920 by Western Avenue
Baptist, Statesville
Pastored more than 20 churches
Bessemer City Bapt. 1935, Shady Grove
Bapt. 1937. Served a number of pastorates in Charlotte including East Trinty
Bapt. in Mint Hill and First Bapt.,
Locust, N. C. Rev. Yates pastoral work
included 14 years as interim pastor.
Preached 25 years (once a month) at Rescue
Mission, Charlotte. Preached 10 years
(once a month) at Tipton Rest Home, Matthews

Other Experiences:

Trustee of Mars Hill College Trustee of Wingate College Honorary chairman of statewide Evangelist Conference, 1973. Served as Moderator of three associations. Author of a book, "Our Marching Orders in Evangelism". 1957

Wake Forest University honored Rev. Yates with the Distinguished Service in Religion award in 1968.

Died December 11, 1979

#### REV. W. L. HAWKINS

Rev. W. Luther Hawkins

Born May 9, 1902, Kings Mountain, N.C.

Son of John S. Hawkins and Molly Griffin Hawkins Married June 15, 1950 to Pearl Keller at Poovey's Grove Baptist Church

#### Education:

Gastonia High School, Gastonia, N.C. Attended Mars Hill College Additional studies when possible

Pastoral Misistry: (45 years)

Mt. Zion Baptist, Cherryville, N.C. Second Baptist, Cherryville, N.C. Shady Grove Baptist, Cherryville, N.C. 1938 - 1941

Oak Grove Baptist, Kings Mountain, N.C. Unity Baptist, Belmont, N.C. Antioch Baptist, Bolivia, N.C. Timrod Baptist, Bethune, S.C. Cedar Rock Baptist, Lenoir, N.C.

# Other Experiences;

Associate Area Boy Scout Executive, Gastonia, N. C.

Mission work in Bowling Green, S. C. Vice-Moderator in Kershaw Association Clerk for six years in Kershaw Association Active in Caldwell Association and preached the Annual Sermon in 1973 Retired in 1977

Died Nov. 30, 1979

#### REV. J. W. COSTNER

Rev. Joseph Wheeler Costner

Born Mar. 19, 1899, Cleveland County

Son of Alexander Costner and Florence Williams Married Sept., 1920 to Cora Lee Canley of Fallston,

N.C.

Children: Mozelle Costner (Parker); Joseph Wheeler, Jr.

Pauline Costner; Sherrill Morgan Costner

Education:

Hich school and business college training Ministerial courses at Gardner Webb, Mars Hill and Duke University Most of his training came by self-teaching and mastery of the complete set of study course books offered by Baptist Sunday School Board.

Studied at Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.

Pastoral Ministry:

Pisgah Baptist Church, Casar, N.C. Flint Hill Bapt. Church, Boiling Springs N.C.

Shady Grove Church (1942 - 1945)
Mt. Beulah Baptist, Gaston County
Mt. Zion Bapt. Cherryville, N.C.
Newland Bapt. Church, Newland, N.C.
Oak Springs Bapt. Rutherfordton, N.C.
Suit Bapt. Church, Murphey, N.C.
Jarret Memorial Bapt., Dillsboro, N.C.

Other Experiences:

Member of General Board of Bapt. State Convention.

Interim work: Dalzell Church, Dalzell, S.C. Corinth Bapt. Church

Ellenboro, N.C. Missionary for the Chowan Association

for five summers, Kitty Hawk, N.c.

After the death of Cora Lee Costner on May 29, 1975, Rev. Costner married Mrs. Lillie Land, widow of R.P. Land of Dallas, N.C. on Nov. 9, 1975.

He died on Sept. 14, 1978.

#### REV. PLATO ALBERT HICKS

Born Aug. 3, 1892, Burke County, N.C.

Son of Mary Jane Denton and Joseph Hicks

Married Aug. 1, 1914 to Dice Whitesides of Lincolnton

Children: Jeter Joseph Hicks Paul Albert Hicks

Education: Wake Forest College, A B Degree

Southern Bapt. Theological Seminary,

Th. B. Degree

Ordained: July 8, 1915

Pastoral Ministry:

Hilderbrand, Maiden, N.C. 1912-1914

South Herderson, New Hill,

Pleasant Plains, Kennonsville 1914-18

Thrift Bapt., Charlotte, 3 years Camp Green, Charlotte, 1 year

White Mills Bapt. Church, Kentucky, 1 year Bureny, Indiana and Lewis Creek, 1 year

Western Avenue, Statesville, N.C., 4 years First Baptist, Boone, N.C., 7 years East Belmont Baptist, Belmont, N.C.

1934-1946

Shady Grove Baptist, 1946-1957

Clerk South Yadkin Association 1926

Vice President Bapt. State Comvention 1933

Executive Committee South Yadkin Association 1924-26

Member of Civitan Club, WOW, Patriotic Sons of America

(Information from "Among Southern Baptist" by J.S. Ramond)

#### REV. LEE A. SMITH

Born Nov. 16, 1930 Fayetteville, N.C.

Married 1949 to Nancy Susan Blackman

Children: Linda Faye Smith Aug. 16, 1950 Timothy Lee Smith April 19, 1952

Steven Smith

Education: Fayetteville High School

Campbelle Jr. College, Buies Creek, N.C.

Wake Forest College, B S Degree Southeastern Seminary, B D Degree

Studied at Broughton Hospital, Morganton,

North Carolina

### Pastoral Ministry:

Bladen Union Bapt. Church, St. Paul, N.C. 1951 - 54 Shady Grove Baptist Church 1957 - 54 U.S. Army Chaplin 1961 to the present

REV. MARVIN H. WILLIS, SR.

Born October 13, 1925 Rutherfordton, N.C.

Married August 23, 1952 to Patricia Deter of

Rutherfordton, N.C. A.A. Gardner-Webb College

1949

R.N. North Car. Bapt. Hosp.

Winston Salem

Presently part-time private

duty nurse

Children: Marvin H. Willis, Jr. Accountant

Rodney Keith Willis deceased 1/7/77 Rachel Winona Willis, Junior at Ashe-

brook High School

Education: Rutherfordton-Spindale High School

A.A. Gardner Webb College, 1949 B.A. Carson-Newman College, 1951

B.D. New Orleans Bapt. Theological

Semimary, 1954

Chaplaincy School, Bapt. Hospital,

Winston Salem, 1969

### Church Experience:

Directed Music and Youth Revivals in college 1947-1951

Music and Supply preaching during seminary 1951-1954

Music and Education, First Bapt. Church Rutherfordton, 1954

Pastor Highland Park Church, Mt. Airy, N.C. 1955-1956

Associate Pastor, Music and Education, Brandon Bapt. Church, Greenville, S.C.

1956-1958

Pastor, Liberty Hill Bapt. Church, Eastanollee, Ga. 1958-61 Pastor, Shady Grove Bapt. Church 1961-66 Pastor, Antioch Bapt. Church, Taylorsville, N.C. 1966-70 Pastor, Sandy Plains Bapt. Church, Gastonia, N.C. 1970 to present

# Other Experiences:

Assn. Music Director, Tugelo Assn.

Toccoa, Ga.

Assn. Sunday School Director, Greensville Assn. Greenville, S. C.

Assn. Sunday School Director, Alexander Assn. Taylorsville

Assn.Sunday School Director, Gaston Assn. 1970-1975

Program Chairman, Minister's Conference, Gaston Assn.

Chairman, Exceutive Comm., Gaston Assn. Gastonia, N.C.

# Special Interests and Abilities:

Music, Voice, Piano, Woodwork, Gardening, Reading

Significant Happenings while pastor at Shady Grove: Construction of the new Children's Building Average attendance in Sunday School climbed to an all-time high of 235.

"Even more significant was the joy of serving the Lord with such wonderful people and the souls we led to know Jesus" - Rev. Willis

#### REV. FRANK C. TAYLOR

Born Feb. 22 Laurens, South Carolina Son of Robert R. Taylor and Sara Parsons Taylor

# Married Gaynell Darnell

#### Children:

Susan Poole, Albermarle, North Carolina Julie Bangham, Huntsville, Alabama

#### Education:

Ford High School, Laurens, South Carolina North Greenville Baptist Junior College, Tigerville, S.C.

Furman University, Greenville, S.C. Bachelor

of Arts Degree

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C. Master of Devinity Degree Clinical Pastoral Education, N.C. Bapt. Hospital and Bowman Gray School of Medicine,

Winston, Salem, N.C.

Allied Health Continuing Education (215 hours at these locations):

Lee County Hospital, Opelika, Alabama Tuskegee Veteran Administration Med. Center, Tuskegee, Alabama

Baptist Medical Center, Montgomery, Alabama Alabama Baptist Convention, Montegomery, Ala. Southeastern Bapt. Theological Semimary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Ridgecrest Baptist Center, Ridgecrest, N.C. Southeastern Regional Medical Center, Birmingham, Alabama

# Pastoral Ministry:

Carr's Hill Bapt., Brevard, N.C. (4 years)
East Maiden Bapt., Maiden, N.C. (8 years)
Shady Grove Bapt., Cherryville, N.C. (8 years)
1967 - 1975

# Other Experiences:

Rev. Taylor has served as a Veteran Administration staff Chaplin at the VA Medical Center, Tuskegee, Ala. for six years under the endorsement of the Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.

# Significant happenings while pastor at Shady Grove:

Organized Senior Citizens's group
Air conditioned church and pastor's home
Paved parking lot at church and driveway
at pastor's home
Renovated church offices
Purchased church bus
Shady Grove provided leadership for the
organization of the Cherryville Goodwill
Center. Pastor Taylor served as chairman
of the steering committee.
Rev. Taylor served as chairman of the
Associational Executive Comm. of the General
Board of the Gaston Association.
Shady Grove started the annual Christmas
Party at Club Carolina.

#### REV. DAN W. SILVER

Born June 25, 1927 Rutherford County, N.C.

Married June 1, 1946 to Colleen Lane Wife is presently a teacher in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

### Children:

Patricia E. Melton Born July 25, 1948 Michael Dan Silver Born March 4, 1953

### Education:

Avondale Elem. School, Avondale, N.C. Tri-Hi School, Caroleen, N. C. Gardner-Webb College, Boiling Springs, N.C. Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, N.C. Atlantic Christian College, Wilson, N.C. Southeastern Baptist Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C. Advance Studies by Correspondence N.Y.U. and Auburn Clinic in Pastoral Care, Presbyterian Hospital, Charlotte

Pastoral Ministry:

Bethany Baptist Church, Rt. 2, Wendell, N.C. and Baptist Tabernacle, Rt. 1, Wendell, N.C. 1956-1960 - these churches 1/2 time

Swift Creek Baptist, Rt. 4, Raleigh, N.C. 1960 - 1963

West Monroe Baptist, Monroe, N.C. 1963 - 64 Newell Baptist, Newell, N.C. 1964-1976

Shady Grove Baptist, Cherryville, N.C. 1976 to present

# Other Experiences:

Served on General Board of Baptist State Convention of N.C. and on the Evangelist Committee of that Board

Served on Ministerial Board of Associates Gardner-Webb and Friends at UNC-C

Served in Associational work in many different positions

Named in Who's Who in Religion - 1977

Active in building two pastoriums and a total plant after fire at Newell, N.C. Also started youth program at two churches

Member of Cherryville Masonic Lodge #505 A.F. and A.M.

#### INTERIM PASTORS

#### REV. ZENO WALL

Rev. Zeno Wall served as interim pastor at Shady Grove from February, 1961 to August 6, 1961, following the pastorate of Rev. Lee A. Smith.

The following article written by Marse Grant, editor of the Biblical Recorder, give some of the biographical details in the life of Rev. Wall.

# I Remember...Zeno Wall By Marse Grant

Zeno Wall, pastor at First Church, Shelby, from 1925 to 1948, and a giant among N. C. Baptists for more than 50 years, touched the lives of thousands of people and I am glad to be among them.

He was general superintendent of the Children's Homes when I bacame editor of Charity and Children in October, 1949. He had a genuine concern for people and they knew it. Everyone was "beloved" to him and he meant it.

There are so many aspects of his life, it becomes impossible to cover more than two or three of them in this space. After retiring at the Children's Homes in 1950, he was pastor at Elizabeth Church, Shelby, for five years—all after his 70th birthday! He let the church in constructing a new building following a disastrous fire. He went to serve five Sundays and stayed more than five years.

He is belived to be the only man to lead inaugural prayers for two governors - O. Max Gardner and Clyde R. Hoey, the latter a Methodist.

He had a dignity and pulpit presence which commanded respect.

One of the dreams of his life was to see Gardner-Webb a four-year college and the day before he died on Sept. 12, 1967, the trustees voted to take that step.

He was president of the Baptist State Convention for four successive terms, 1933-36. He made it a point to visit every new pastor he could. With them as well as everyone else, he demonstrated the "pastor's heart" that was such an integral part of him.

Illustrating the discipline and organization that were a part of his life, he gave instructions to his son-in-law, Ollie Harris of Kings Mountain, about funeral plans. He listed the active pall-bearers and substitutes; also the honorary pall-bearers (pastors in the Kings Mountain Association.) On the other side of the page, he listed the "flower girls" and their telephone numbers so they could be easily reached.

He was a great man of God and I shall always remember his influence on my life.

Copied from the Biblical Recorder, Aug. 22, 1981.

#### REV. E. L. SPIVEY

Rev. Edward Lowell Spivey
Born Aug. 28, 1900, Windsor, North Carolina
Son of James P. and Ella Godwin Spivey
Married Olive Blake

#### Children:

Jane Spivey Hall Edward Lowell Spivey, Jr. Lydia Spivey Williams

#### Education:

Windsor High School Wake Forest University Southern Bapt. Theological Seminary

#### Pastoral Ministry:

Brassfield and Pleasant Grove, Oxford Union Hills and Seven Hills, Kentucky First Baptist, Inman, South Carolina First Baptist, Mooresville, N.C. In Retirement:

> Interim Pastorate, Shady Grove, Present Pastorate, Sharon Bapt., Charlotte, N.C.

# Other experiences:

Director of Missions and Stewardship for N.C. State Convention for 24 years

Rev. Spivey states that during his interim pastorate at Shady Grove "the church prospered materially, physically and spiritually. Mrs. Spivey and I grew in Christian joy and abiding appreciation with a church so firmly established in Christian character and cordiality."

#### REV. A. M. KISER

Rev. Amos Monroe Kiser, Sr.

Born Sept. 30, 1907, Gaston County

Son of Henry Clay Kiser and Cornelia

Elizabeth Alexander Kiser

Married April 29, 1927 to Vera Inez Stroupe of Shady Grove Community

Children:

A.M. Kiser, Jr. Mocksville, N.C. Mary Elizabeth Morin, Milton, Fla. Martha Hinson, Rock Hill, S.C.

#### Education:

Tryon High School, 1927 Furman University, 1931 A B

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1938 Th M

Pastoral Ministry: (34 years)

Ordained July 17, 1938 at Shady Grove and preached his first sermon at Shady Grove Long Shoals Bapt., Gaston County Waco Bapt., Cleveland County Big Springs Bapt. Rutherfordton County Union Bapt., Cleveland County Pleasant Grove Bapt., Cleveland County New Prospect Bapt., Cleveland County Fork Bapt., Davie County (8 and 1/2 years)

Oakboro Bapt., Stanley County (11 years)

Other Experiences:

Public School teacher, Piedmont Elem. School 1928 - 1929, Waco High School, (2 years) Mt. Beulah Elem. School (2 years) R.A. Counselor, South Yadkin Association Sect. of Davie County Ministers Association Pres. of Pastor's Conference, Stanley Assn. Moderator and Vice Moderator of Stanly Assn. Director of Seminary Extension, Stanly Assn. Trustee of Stanly County Hospital President Oakboro Lions Club

Retired October 1, 1972 and moved to his home on Route 2, Cherryville, N.C.

Served since 1972 as interim pastor of the following churches:

Anthony's Grove	(Gaston C	ounty)
Webb's Chapel	11	11
Chestnut Ridge	11	46
High Shoals	, 11	41
Shady Grove	11	41
Union Baptist	(Cleveland	County)

Since retirement Rev. Kiser has served as minister to Senior Citizens at Shady Grove and continues to serve as supply minister in many churches of this area.

	CHURCH CLERK	YEAR
1.	M. L. Hullet	1881 - 1884
2.	D. N. Hicks	1885 - 1888
3.	E. C. Huss	1889
4.	R. B. Hicks	1890 - 1899
5.	D. R. Stroupe	1900 - 1935
6.	Earl Sellers	1935 -

STATISTICAL TABLE (1881 - 1981)
(Church Organized Nov. 25, 1881)
(First report made to Association Sept. 1882)

Year	Member- ship	- Mission Offering	Pastor's Salary	TOTAL OFFERING
1881			-	
1882	41	\$ 7.50	\$ 35.60	\$ 44.10
1885	117	4.60	71.85	92.85
1890	30	1.00	31.00	34.25
1895	76	3.00		8.16
1900	89	8.00		8.50
1905	98	25.54	80.00	220.59
1910	99	20.00	75.00	100.00
1915	<b>15</b> 0	19.00	90.00	128.00
1920	146		200.00	999.00
1925	134	<b>6</b> 9.00	198.00	374.00
1930	150	104.00	350.00	752.00
1935	193	103.00	321.00	709.00
1940	218	154.00	550.00	1,002.00
1945	216	411.00	923.00	3,500.00
1950	249	733.00	1,200.00	8,305.00
1955	<b>32</b> 9	7,550.00	1,755.00	9,843.00
1960	336	4,754.00	4,680.00	17,046.00
1965	439	8,486.00	7,004.00	38,477.00
1970	444	15,002.00	7,750.00	53,223.00
1975	455	16,004.00	9,500.00	59,140.00
1980	474	32,305.00	14,352.00	133,004.00

# CHURCH DIRECTORY 1981 - 1982

Pastor - Rev. Dan Silver

Music Director - Merlyn Blanton

Organist - Martha Mode

Pianist - Sherry Reynolds

Youth Choir Pianist - Pam Farnsworth

Custodian - Louise Carpenter

Secretary - Linda Sellers

Treasurer - Frank Hoyle

Clerk - Earl Sellers

# OFFICERS

Sunday School Director - C. L. Wofford

W.M.U. Director - Merlyn Blanton

Senior Citizen's President - Louise Carpenter

# DEACONS

Fred Arrowood Frank Hoyle

Jack Blanton Bill Mauney

Tyrone Beckum Ben Sellers

Nelson Bridges Earl Sellers

Mike Davis Walter Sellers

Lawrence Hovis Carroll Wofford

### TRUSTEES

Furman Neill Earl Sellers Charles Haynes

Zoe and Floyd Give Lifetime Service to Church Music

Zoe played the piano and Floyd sang bass - and they did it for a total of 119 years. Perhaps even more unusual is the fact that they were a brother-sister team of musicians in Shady Grove Baptist Church most of that time.

Children of Philip and Huldah J. Mauney (Charter member), both attended Shady Grove Church from their youth.

Zoe started taking piano when she was 9 years old and started playing for the church when she was 11. She played (almost continuously) until her death in 1977. In 1929 she moved with her husband (Nevil B. Mauney) and two children to Florida where they lived for a period of time, and there she played the piano in a Methodist church.

Floyd started singing in the choir when he was 14 and began directing the music in 1917, when he was 20. Floyd served many positions at Shady Grove. He served as deacon for 30 years. He was a member of the Board of Trustees. For 56 years he prepared the Communion service for the Lord's Supper.

Perhaps the greatest contribution Floyd made was to serve as Supt. of Construction for the present church. He served along with other members, giving their labors and materials free, in order to build the church. Floyd served at intervals as Supt. of Sunday School for about 15 years between 1922-1961. In his retirement years he felt honored to be the "Lord's Housekeeper" until his death in 1974.

Both Zoe and Floyd participated in the "Singing Schools", the first one held in 1917. Later two other schools were held which provided the beginning for choirs in the churches of the area.

To Zoe and Floyd Mauney, both vocation and avocation were Shady Grove Baptist Church. They wouldn't have changed it. 'Till the "Roll is Called Up Yonder" Zoe played the piano and Floyd sang bass.



- A Edith McGinnis Stroupe. 6/10/16 1/1/64
- A Thomas L. Stroupe. 8/24/1894 - 7/13/72
- A Koby Dwayne Rayfield. 8/14/63 8/26/63

B -

- C William Clyde Black G.M.3 US Navy War World II 9/4/25 - 5/13/78
- C Donald Lee Arrowood. 9/22/48 3/31/79
- C Willaim Erskine Arrowood. 7/16/1895 1/15/77
- D Barbara Rebecca Homesley. 3/10/43 5/23/75
- E April Lynn Witherspoon. (Infant) 5/3/78 -5/3/78
- E Gilmore Boyd Hamm. 10/11/16 5/15/76
- F Annie Lee Yount. 4/11/06 5/1/80
- G Henery Wilbur McAbee. N.C. SGT Co. B 720 AMPH TRAC BN WW II 5/21/21 7/24/71
- G Jacqulaine McAbee. 6/17/62 7/13/67 G Alvin Walter Craig. N. C. F1 US Navy
- World War II 7/6/25 12/6/71
- G.- Wayburn F. Witherspoon. U.S. Army World War II 11/18/18 2/8/81
- G Randy Blake Neill. 3/26/61 10/27/78
- G Infant Son of Colen & Luann Neill 9/13/55
- H Lloyd Eugene Bookout. 3/20/26 8/11/70 H William Nelson Mauney. 5/3/67 5/4/67 Infant son of Roy & Marianna Mauney
- I Howard Bridges. 1/22/39 4/9/74
- I Patsy Ruth Carpenter. 9/26/34 5/22/80
- J Mazel Brown Sellers. 10/14/19 6/13/72 J Bill Ann Sellers. 5/16/47 8/14/65
- J Ronnie Cline Sellers. 8/8/50 4/19/64
- K Fred F. Stroupe. 1907 1972
- K Martha Stroupe Ross. 11/7/30 7/8/77
- L Joe N. Bass. 7/7/14 12/4/71
- L Lorene Strope Bass. 6/1/12 7/9/67
- L Bert Stroupe. 3/2/1878 3/21/58 L Sudie Wacaster Stroupe. 12/31/1883 3/31/73
- M Edgar E. Sellers, Sr. 1/27/1900 6/10/34 M Anna Lou Barkley Sellers. 7/16/1896 12/19/70
- M Doras C. Sellers. 12/21/1886 4/15/43
- M Mellissie M. Wright Sellers. 3/1/1875 10/15/43
- M Charlie C. Sellers. 1/13/1892 12/22/71

- M A. C. Turner. 6/22/14 5/8/62
- N Thomas F. Sellers. 7/22/1871 3/31/46
- N Cora E. Black Sellers. 11/23/1871-1/1/54
- N Flora Geneva Sellers. 1/16/16 9/10/19 N Thomas Webb Sellers. 7/12/13 2/8/61
- N Louie W. Sellers. 11/16/07 5/10/65
- N W.M. Sellers. 2/28/1874 3/11/58
- N Lydia C. Stroupe Sellers. 12/30/1883-2/29/52
- N Howard L. Sellers. 2/23/21 3/20/51
- 0 John W. Blackwelder. 3/2/1891 3/18/52
- 0 Ocie B. Witherspoon Blackwelder. 3/13/1894 - 12/13/78
- 0 Una Blackwelder. 4/19/18 5/11/18
- 0 C. A. Blackwelder. 4/9/19 6/9/20
- 0 Joe B. Blackwelder. 10/2/26 11/14/28
- 0 Raleigh V. Nixon. North Carolina MSGT US Air Force World War II Korea 2/28/14 - 4/27/72
- O Myrtle Angelita Daughter of L.A. and Minnie Anthony. 10/11/19 - 11/15/21
- O Lee A. Anthony. 11/4/1881 4/26/44
- O Minnie Witherspoon Anthony. 2/14/1884-3/12/81
- O M. Sylvanus Bess. 3/16/1885 12/18/68
- 0 Georgia Mauney Bess. 2/24/1892 4/23/81
- O Annette Bess White and Son Jerry White, Jr. 10/3/40 - 10/7/68
- O Penny Allison Bess. Daughter of Keith and Jeanette Bess. 4/6/65 - 4/7/65
- P D. Miles Witherspoon. 11/10/1876 4/1/73
- P Nora J. Sipe Witherspoon. 6/18/1878-12/25/52
- P John Hart Witherspoon. 1/12/1850 5/31/24
- P Mary Elizabeth Witherspoon, 5/14/1852-12/24/17
- P Doris W. Witherspoon. 2/1/1887 2/27/21
- P Blanch Mauney Witherspoon. 2/8/1891-12/1/43
- P W. T. Witherspoon. 12/13/1874 4/17/41
- P Moses L. Witherspoon. 8/28/1881 7/10/49
- P Tew C. Witherspoon. Tec 4 339 Eng. Const Br World War II 3/3/10 - 7/18/68
- P George N. R. Innis. 2/27/1900 3/24/53
- P John H. Sipe. 1871 1942
- P Dora Reynolds Sipe. 1873 1945
- P Eli D. Sellers. 11/1/1894 6/19/80
- P Mary Jane Sellers. 1/14/1894 6/23/69

- P James Nevit Witherspoon. SSGT US Army World War II Korea 7/13/12 + 6/15/79
- Q Floyd Lee Mauney. 2/5/1897 5/29/74
- Q Ruth Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. F.L. Mauney. 12/6/22 - 10/1/27
- Q R. L. Smith. 1844 1916
- Q Fannie J. Putnam Smith. 1849 1933
- Q Vida May Early. 4/24/15 6/14/15 Q Floyd E. Smith. 1/31/1886 4/30/15
- Q W. Milo Neill. 8/31/1872 4/1/67
- Q Ida S. Neill. 3/26/1880 4/22/14
- 0 Ola Aileen Neill. 2/2/31 2/22/31
- Q Gladys M. Neill. 4/8/25 3/4/27 Q William M. Neill. 10/23/1897 5/4/68
- Q Essie L. Neill. 5/21/05 5/17/78
- Q Viola Neal Smith. 11/26/1882 12/10/58
- Q Floyd E. Lytton. 10/18/1899 5/8/24
- Q Dewey Lee Witherspoon. 7/30/1898-11/23/69
- Q Ema M. Witherspoon. 1897 1978
- Q Infant Neill. 12/9/29
- Q D. Eugene Neill. 8/25/34 11/14/41
- Q J.B. Mull. 7/27/1882
- Q Margaret C. Eisenhower Mull. 9/1/1879-5/10/53
- Q John S. Woolley. 8/4/1875 6/21/58
- Q Doschie P. Woolley. 1900 1948
- Q Mary I. Woolley.
- Q Elizabeth Elane Kester. 5/5/21 2/10/77
- R Forest U. Mauney. 5/15/1888 8/10/54
- R Infant Daughter of Forest & Elizabeth Mauney.
- R Zoe M. Mauney. 1/18/05 9/26/77
- R S. Edgar Mauney. 9/23/1881 1/17/46
- R Margaret F. Wells Mauney. 3/23/1882-3/1/45
- R Joseph Anderson Pasaur. 1/1/1845-1/11/10
- R John P. Witherspoon. 8/13/01 5/1/63 R Commiler B. Mauney. 2/14/1882 2/21/19
- R Lawson R. Mauney. 10/25/1879 5/16/59 R Hattie K. Mauney. 11/10/1883 + 6/24/80
- R Charley Smith. 3/15/1879 2/27/55
- R Minnie Smith. 9/7/1883 2/9/42
- R Ruby Brown Neill. 7/28/13 3/14/71
- R Henry George Rhyne. 10/13/1887-10/21/52
- R Mrs. George Rhyne.

- R John E. Black.
- R Mike Black.
- R Mrs. Mike Black.
- R Willie Black.
- S Noah Stroup. 12/14/1854 2/18/27
- S Lola Farnsworth Stroup. 8/22/1860-4/2/51
- S Brite Randall. 11/11/1887 3/17/78 S Vernie Pearl Mauney Randall. 2/9/1887-11/24/67
- S Philip Mauney. 11/5/1858 8/16/17 S Huldah J. McGinnis Mauney. 1/13/1866-4/11/51
- S Doris H. Warlick. 5/1/1887 9/17/70
- S Eunice Randall Warlick. 11/22/1896-8/31/80
- S Mattie Randall. 5/9/1900 11/20/09
- S J. Jonas Randall. 12/3/1851 6/30/34
- S Willie R Carpenter Randall. 3/19/1862-1/9/24
- S B. Campbell Foster. 5/29/1878 2/13/42
- S Rosa Belle Randall Foster. 10/31/1883-2/7/51
- S Furman P. Foster. 12/17/01 12/27/35 S James E. Brackett. 1/21/11 10/25/49
- S Maggie Ledford Brackett. 11/15/1871-3/24/44
- S Buford T. Sellers Sr. 7/4/05 1/6/65
- S Infant Son of B.T. Sellers. 5/18/29 5/19/29
- S Claude P Hovis. 2/6/1887 1/31/58
- S Annie May Stroupe Hovis. 2/13/1891-3/14/55
- S No Marker
- T Amanda Gertrude Brown. 4/19/1882-10/22/71
- T William Walter Gladden. 9/27/1881-9/20/49
- T Mary Ellen Gladden. 10/1/1881 8/20/75
  T Vernie Jane Stroup. 1/13/1888 8/4/64
  T Elizabeth Stroup. 12/10/1851 7/24/10
  T Lizzie May Stroup. 7/6/06 7/1/08
  T Jessie Vera Stroup. 12/10/08 9/25/18
  T L. S. Stroup. 1879 1924

- T M. E. Stroup. 1884 1960 T S.R.W. Farris. 9/10/1855 4/1/23
- T Elizabeth Hicks Farris. 9/22/1849 1/29/27
- T James Charles Neill. 5/19/1869-11/5/40
- T Effie Catherine Neill. 6/18/1887-9/11/34
- T John T. Kiser. 8/16/1879 12/29/55
- T Mary Emily Kiser. 9/8/1873 10/23/53 T James Clyde Kiser. 5/5/1912 6/25/81 T Adean Murphy. 4/20/32 7/31/70

- U Howard T. Stroupe. 6/28/09 1/12/63

- U Daniel R. Stroupe. 4/25/1873-5/27/35
- U Lizzie F. Spope Stroupe.11/21/1874-5/23/44
- U L. Prue Stroupe. 11/19/05 8/30/07
- U Vastie V. Stroupe. 3/23/03 7/30/15
- U Spurgeon L. Stroupe. 3/22/1896 10/26/45
- U Patricia Ann Carpenter. 6/15/49 6/10/59
- U Infant Son of W.L. & B.M. Bess. 9/21/20
- U Robert Ivan Gunnells. 3/6/03 8/13/57
- U Lela Gladden Gunnells. 12/14/03 8/14/66
- U Peter S. Gunnells. 4/22/39 12/2/61
- U Russell Q Stacy. 6/6/1892 10/17/67
- U Ida R. Stacy. 4/17/1897 6/21/67
- V J.J. Stroupe. 3/31/1846 1/17/28
- V Susan G. Stroupe. 10/2/1852 3/14/09
- V Huldah Stroupe. 10/4/1886 + 4/9/43
- V A. Jane Stroupe. 10/4/1886-7/6/70
- V Minnie Stroupe. 5/8/1881 5/27/61
- V Margaret E. Stroupe Beam. 8/30/1875-6/16/50
- V Marvin Carpenter. N.C. CPL 1846 Labor Supn Co WWII BSM - PH 1/10/08-1/8/65
- V Wilkie Carpenter. 1/11/16 5/24/17
- V John A. Carpenter. 5/24/1867-1/27/21
- V Julia Eaker Carpenter. 3/17/1871-3/3/62
- V Dollie Barber & Infant Barber
- V Martha Jane Spake Ware. 3/30/1886-2/11/29
- V Forest Burton Ware. 5/6/1881 2/10/37
- V Marcus H. Bridges. 5/25/1892 12/19/62
- V Ola M. Bridges. 3/5/1895 1/3/58
- V Rey D. Hayes. 6/27/35 1/11/77
- V Rives P. Hayes. 5/16/02 1/6/74
- V Ola C. Hayes. 12/19/03 + 6/16/77
- V Lee Arvil Rayfield. 1911 1970
- W Cullen Eli Pruett. 3/24/1886 7/23/65
- W Barbara Strupe Pruett. 9/23/1889-2/12/68
- W Junius Roy Pruett. 6/1/12 9/15/13
- W Pearl Elizabeth Pruett. 1/1/07 5/30/28
- W Colonel A. Martin. 10/22/1866-11/17/51
- W Violet S. Martin. 11/22/1880-5/5/55
- W Infant Son C.A. & V.S. Martin 3/20/20 3/23/20
- W John M. Martin. 1/11/16 1/14/16

- W Infant Son of W.C. & L.B. Martin
- 10/7/27 10/8/27 W Jimmie R. Pruitt. 4/3/42 12/12/65
- W W. Eugene Pruitt. 7/26/16 10/8/79 W Lela Pruitt. 11/2/12 10/10/76
- X Infant Son of J.P. & K. C. Spake. 2/10/24
- X David G. Spake. 10/1/1850 7/26/19
- X Jessie Hartman. 4/28/14 7/20/14
- X Will P.Sellers. 1/6/1894-3/16/70
- X Cora F. Stroupe Sellers. 3/11/1896-10/7/78
- X Grover Lewis Sellers. 2/8/17 5/10/79 Dennis Eugene Black. Died 8/22/62
- Y Robert W. Rayfield. 1881 1966 Y Callie M. Rayfield. 1885 1973
- Y James F. Rayfield. 12/3/09 10/10/15 Y Oder G. Rayfield. 3/28/16 6/29/18 Y Robert F. Rayfield. 1915 1963 Y James M. Rayfield. 11/18/1854 1/3/32 Y Nancy W. Rayfield. 3/9/1858 1/6/31

- Y Ervin J. Butler. 1843 1925
- Y Margaret R. Butler. 1853 1916
- Z L. Pinkney Wright. 8/21/1873-3/14/40
- Z Margaret J. Sellers Wright. 4/21/1869-3/8/21
- Z Belle Emma Julia Wright. 10/27/1896-6/9/43
- Z Ervin Pinkney Wright. 5/10/10 8/7/08 Z James H. Williams. 2/5/08 2/11/40
- Z Dellie R. Mathis. 2/2/1896 7/2/29
  Z Dock W. Williams. 1848 1932
- Z Liddie Williams. 6/2/1879 8/28/51
- AA- Horace L. Farnsworth. 9/9/05 11/20/79
- AA- Bobby Ford Farnsworth. 10/3/27-10/7/27
- AA- J. Cornelius Farnsworth. 2/9/02-12/10/30
- AA- Evelyne Ford Farnsworth. 5/5/07 8/27/67
- AA- William (Bill) Edgar Farnsworth. 1/22/26-12/9/66 BB-Olin Farnsworth. 11/15/16 7/27/67
- BB-William E. Farnsworth. 4/9/1871 11/2/62
- BB-Della S. Farnsworth. 11/5/1879-3/25/78
- BB-Edgar Caldwell Farnsworth. 2/27/1900-2/7/71
- BB-Vida C. Mauney Farnsworth. 6/12/02 11/13/67 BB-Furman Blanton Farnsworth. 10/2/07 2/22/75



# Historical Committee

First row: Clara Dell Stroupe, Iva Mae Wells,

Sandra Wallace

Second row: Walter Sellers, Earl Sellers

#### CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now, in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort, to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings; faithful in our engagement and exemplary in our deportment, to avoid all tattling, back-biting and excessive anger, to abstain from sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling, and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offence, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Saviour to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other Church, where we can carry out the spirit of the covenant and the principles of God's Word.

